

COUNTRY

Military Information from Jena

TOPIC

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PLACE OBTAINED

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EVALUATION

20 November 1952 to 7 February 1953

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

5 March 1953

DATE PREPARED

REFERENCES

PAGES

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REMARKS

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1. On 4 February 1953, the barracks installation on Naumburger Strasse and Stifter Strasse, near Egelsee (lake), Jena-Lobstedt was occupied by 600 to 700 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank or artillery insignia. The installation was about 70 percent lighted at dusk. From 20 November 1952 to 4 February 1953, 25 to 30 soldiers carrying submachine guns and carbines were almost daily seen leaving the installation toward Konitzburg. Two T-34 tanks parked in the barracks yard were the only heavy weapons seen.

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2. On 4 February, the barracks installation at the intersection of Naumburger Strasse and Bruecken Strasse, Zwaetzen, was occupied by about 500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank or artillery insignia including some wearing black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia. From 20 November 1952 to 4 February 1953, about 20 T-34 tanks

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[redacted] 8 JS-1 tanks; and 6 SU-100 guns were seen. On 4 or 5 days a week, each 4 tanks, 1 SP gun and 1 salvage tank moved toward Rothenstein near Kalau for firing practices with live ammunition and usually returned to the installation at nightfall.

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3. On 7 February, the barracks installation in Zwaetzen was heavily occupied by a tank unit. On 5 February, JS tanks [redacted]

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[redacted] entered the installation, coming from an

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25X1 exercise. Six T-34 tanks [redacted] and 12 guns which [redacted] were AT guns were seen in the barracks yard.  
 25X1 On 5 February, three columns of 100, 75 and 50 soldiers who [redacted]  
 25X1 [redacted] came from a major exercise were observed returning to the  
 25X1 installation. [redacted]

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25X1 4. On 7 February, the barracks installation in Loebstedt was occupied to capacity by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery or tank insignia. On 5 February, about 1,000 soldiers left the installation for an exercise. [redacted]

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25X1 5. On 7 February, the Forst Kaserne west of Otto Schott Platz northwest of Jena-Lichtenhain was occupied almost to capacity. In 1952, the installation had been reconditioned with haste. From 4 to 7 February, 10 AA guns were seen in the barracks yard.<sup>2</sup>

25X1 6. On 7 February, the Jena-Ruedigen airfield appeared to be heavily occupied.<sup>3</sup>

25X1 7. On 7 February, the Thueringer Ackerbauschule on the east side of Naumburger Strasse was not occupied.<sup>4</sup>

25X1 [redacted] Comment. The information confirms that the barracks installation in Zwaetzen is still occupied by the 68th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt (US) [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] Comment. The information is the first to indicate that the Forst Kaserne is occupied almost to capacity by Soviet troops. It had previously been believed that the installation quartered a VP unit in addition to a small number of Soviet troops for joint practices. Soviet and VP soldiers had been seen training together on six light AA guns behind the installation in late November 1952. It could not be determined whether these units belonged to the 2504th Gds AAA Regt (US) of the 20th Gds Mecz Div or were furnished for training by the VP. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] Comment. A Soviet ammunition dump and ration supply depot had hitherto been carried located at the Roedigen airfield. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] Comment. [redacted] beginning 18 January, units of the 20th Gds Mecz Div resumed training at the Ohrdruf troop training grounds, with trains leaving Jena on 18 January and returning from Ohrdruf on 23 January and 2 February. Also, elements of the 68th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt were in Weimar from Jena from 13 to 16 January, probably for joint practices with other units of the 20th Gds Mecz Div stationed there.

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